

Policies

[NHS mandate 2023](#)

The government's mandate to NHS England sets out their objectives for 2023 onwards.

Consultation Responses

[Interim service specification for specialist gender incongruence services for children and young people](#)

This interim service specification sets out how care will be provided to children and young people, and their families, who express gender incongruence and who are likely to benefit from clinical support.

Blogs

[Building an understanding of infant mental health](#)

Giving children the best start in life requires joined-up, effective and sustained action, but achieving this can be difficult because professionals often lack a shared understanding of what mental health means during early life.

[Struggling to be heard: understanding the experience of disabled people in England](#)

More than ever disabled people are facing barriers to living well, so it is concerning that the census might not be capturing the true picture of disability in England, and that disabled people struggle to be heard.

News

[Safe care at home review](#)

Joint review led by the Home Office and DHSC into the protections and support for adults abused, or at risk of abuse, in their own home by people providing their care.

[New drugs pilot to tackle obesity and cut NHS waiting lists](#)

More people living with obesity will have access to the newest and most effective obesity drugs to help cut NHS waiting lists, following the announcement of a £40 million two-year pilot today [Wednesday 7 June].

[NHS to open new specialist clinics for obese children and young people](#)

Thousands more children and young people who are severely obese will receive intensive support from the NHS, with 10 new specialist clinics set to open across England.

[Free prescription age frozen at 60](#)

Everyone aged 60 and over will continue to receive free prescriptions, the government has confirmed today.

[Hospice at home can enable people to have a good death in the place of their choosing](#)

Hospice at home provides end-of-life care for people who would like to die at home. A review in England found that these services support a good death (as reported by the bereaved carer) and enable most people to die in their preferred location (usually at home).

[NHS website sees surge in heat exhaustion advice as temperatures sizzle](#)

Figures released by NHS England, which runs the NHS website, show there were 109,096 visits to the [health advice page on heat exhaustion and heatstroke](#) in the last seven days (9 to 15 June), compared with 34,066 the previous week (2 to 8 June).

[Rough sleepers in homeless hotspots to benefit from NHS mental health support](#)

Rough sleepers in towns with high rates of homelessness are to benefit from specialist NHS mental health care across the country.

[Majority of public happy to use health technology to avoid going into hospital, new research shows](#)

The NHS Confederation supported by Google Health commissioned Ipsos to undertake research on public attitudes to using health technologies.

[OHA Response to Multi-Buy Promotions Delay](#)

The Government has [announced it will further delay](#) the introduction of restrictions on multibuy price promotions on foods that are high in fat, salt and sugar.

[Tackling health inequalities in children and young people](#)

We've updated our health inequalities web resource so that it maps NICE guidance to frameworks for children and young people. Dr Clare Morgan, director of implementation and partnerships explains how you can use the resource to ensure you're delivering effective care.

[A hydrated nurse is a safe nurse](#)

Have you ever reached the end of your shift and realised you haven't drunk any fluids for hours and can't remember when you last went to the toilet? And when you do go, you're shocked by the colour of your wee? Sadly, that's the reality for many of us working under extreme pressure.

[Long COVID: effects on fatigue and quality of life can be comparable to some cancers – new research](#)

As of March 2023, the Office for National Statistics estimated that 1.7 million people in the UK were living with self-reported long COVID. This refers to symptoms, including fatigue and brain fog among many others, that continue for more than 12 weeks after the initial COVID infection.

[Gonorrhoea and syphilis diagnoses are at their highest in decades – here's what you need to know about these STIs](#)

The [latest data](#) from the UK Health Security Agency shows that diagnoses of gonorrhoea and syphilis have surged in the last year. Shockingly, gonorrhoea rates are the highest they have been since records began in 1918.

[Why hay fever is so bad in the UK right now – and why thunderstorms make things worse for people with allergies and asthma](#)

The UK is in the grip of a particularly bad period for hay fever, with people across the nation experiencing a relentless onslaught of sneezing, itchy eyes and nasal congestion. Visits to the NHS hay fever advice page have increased by 252% since the beginning of May, signifying the magnitude of the problem.

[Wegovy: more people may soon be eligible to access weight-loss drug under new pilot scheme](#)

One in four adults in the UK are obese. Obesity is associated with many health conditions including high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, heart attacks, stroke and cancer. The financial cost of obesity to the NHS is an estimated £6 billion a year.

[The lesser-known risk factors for heart disease](#)

Most people know that the risk factors for heart disease are high blood pressure, smoking, raised cholesterol and being overweight. However, many people who have a heart attack do not have any of these traditional risk factors.